

Andrew Jackson to Samuel Delucenna Ingham, April 20, 1831, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO SECRETARY INGHAM.

Washington, April 20, 1831.

Sir, Late last evening I had the honor to receive your letter of the 19th tendering your resignation of Secretary of the Treasury of the U. States.

When the resignations of the Sec. of State and War were first tendered to me, I deliberated well upon the reasons offered, and all the circumstances, with which the subject was connected, and after mature consideration concluded finally to accept their resignations. But when this conclusion was come to, I found from all the causes growing out of the circumstances of the times, that when I accepted their resignations I must reorganise my Cabinet. it had been invited by me to the stations each occupied, it came together in great harmony and was a unit, that under present circumstances with which I was surrounded I could not permit two to retire, without affording the malignant room to assail those who were permitted to retire and whose patriotism were such that they could not consistant with self respect and the quiet and prosperity of the administration remain, that Justice might be done to all—all coming into my cabinet in harmony as a unit and all haveing my confidence, I determined to accept the resignations, and reorganize my Cabinet proper, however painful this act might be to myself. I therefore felt it a duty I owed to you frankly to make known the whole matter. And whilst I accept the tender of your resignation, it is with great pleasure I bear testimony to the ability, and untiring zeal with which you superintended the fiscal concerns of the nation which has obtained for you my full confidence in your integrity and talents, and in the discharge of all the duties of your

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office over which I had controll. I have been fully satistisfied [*sic*] and in your retirement you will carry with you my warmest wishes for your prosperity, and happiness.

It is expected that you continue to discharge the duties of the office until a successor is selected.